

NARRAGANSETT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD September 21, 2016

The form and content of these minutes conform to commonly accepted standards and shall become the official record of the meeting after review and approval by the School Committee. By definition, minutes are not a verbatim record of the proceedings. The regular meeting of the Narragansett School Committee was held on September 21, 2016, at the Narragansett Town Hall, Assembly Area, 25 Fifth Avenue, Narragansett, Rhode Island.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE: Ms. Tammy McNeiece, Dr. Diane Nobles, Vice Chairperson, Mr. Frank White and Mr. Guy deWardener, and Mr. Keith Ranaldi.

OTHER SCHOOL OFFICIALS ATTENDANCE: Ms. Katherine Sipala, Superintendent, Ms. Karen Hagan, Director of Finance and Administration; Mr. Roland Lambert, Director of Technology; Ms. Leslie Brow, Director of Student Services; Mr. Steven Gormley, Director of Operations; Ms. Gail Dandurand, Principal, Narragansett Elementary School; Ms. Marianne Kirby, Principal, Narragansett Pier Middle School, Mr. Toby Gibbons, Assistant Principal, Narragansett High School; and Mr. Michael Convery, Director of Curriculum.

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. McNeiece called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was observed.

SEAL EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES of September 21, 2016.

MOTION: moved by Dr. Nobles, seconded by Mr. deWardener, to seal the minutes of the September 21, 2016 Executive Session.

MOTION PASSED: (5-0)

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION VOTES: One (1) homeschool request was approved.

MOTION PASSED: (5-0)

OPEN FORUM: No one spoke.

ORAL REPORTS:

Narragansett Elementary School: Ms. Gail Dandurand reported that the start of school was very smooth and welcomed many new students. Students are already being screened in the areas of reading and math using fluency checks, Math ADDvantage, PALS and MAP testing to determine which students need enrichment or remediation. She is meeting weekly with Literacy and Math coaches to ensure that students are getting the support that they need. The partnership with the FUSE Fellowes continues and on Sept 19 they observed classrooms to guide their work in blended learning. The 4th grade students received their Chrome books on the 1st day of school. GEMS-Net Science Kits arrived and teachers have started to attend trainings. The PTO held their Scholastic Book Fair event which provides families with the opportunity to purchase books, and each classroom teacher can purchase books for their classrooms and receives a complimentary, monthly Scholastic News magazine for each student! The Sundaes on Sunday event will be held on September 25th at NES.

Narragansett Pier School: Ms. Marianne Kirby reported that the doors are open and up and running. The biggest undertaking was the 1:1 rollout. The NSS tech team lead by Roland Lambert, and includes Giulio Lugini, Derek Emery and Mike Robenhymmer, distributed chrome books to the 5th grade students, and laptops to the 6th, 7th and 8th grade students. This team worked tirelessly over two evenings and an afternoon in August to complete this process. It was a very smooth event. Thank you to all made this possible. After school activities are underway including the homework club, Pier Peers, golf club, robotics club, cross country, and boys' and girls' soccer. The Narragansett Prevention Partnership sponsored a presentation by Ed Gerrity to grade 7 and 8 students. Upcoming Events at NPS include: Open House on Thursday, September 22, in the School Gym at 6:00; Career Day on Friday, September 30th from 8:30 -11:30. Students attend four sessions. and their choices include airline pilot, chemist, and DEM officer; the Welcome Back Dance (7th & 8th) will be held on Friday. September 30th in the Cafe from 7:00 - 9:00; the next PTO Meeting will take place on Monday, October 3rd, in the Library at 7:00 PM; School Picture Day on Wednesday, October 12; Unity Day on Wednesday,

October 19; and the PTO Book Fair Wednesday, Oct. 19 through Friday, Oct 21st. Enrollment is the highest it has been since 2010, and matches the enrollment numbers from 2009 at NPS.

Narragansett High School: Mr. Toby Gibbons reported that the AgriScience Center construction is underway with no interruption to the students or staff. The FFA students received a Blue Ribbon for first place in landscape design at the Big E in Springfield, MA, and to quote Mr. Breene “they have been bridesmaids many times but never the bride” Students and faculty were very excited about this accomplishment. The new Athletic Complex opened and it is being utilized by students and community alike. The first Parent Night was Tuesday night. The Narragansett Prevention Partnership sponsored a presentation by Ed Gerrity at the High School as well and it was very well received. His message of kindness, unity and community was well received and students were buzzing about it. Narragansett High School’s 1:1 laptop rollout is happening by Advisory at NHS. The plan is to have the rollout complete by the end of September.

Ms. McNeiece asked for an update on the promotion of the Narragansett High School Open House and the marketing plan to bring students back and bring new students into the program. She also asked that they organize the NHS Homepage to highlight the AgriScience Program and making it as attractive and interactive as possible.

Student Services: Mrs. Brow reported that they have accomplished a lot in the short time since the start of school. She has already had staff meetings at all three schools. Staff continues to participate in a federally funded project out of Boston University entitled “Validating and Observation Instruction for Special Educators” looking at the teacher evaluation tool and how it fits, or doesn’t. The Department hosted Adult Services who came in to talk about students transitioning out of the high school, or post age 21, and how to make it seamless for students and their families. Mr. Roland Lambert was the guest speaker at the first Parent Advisory meeting this month. He talked about the 1:1 roll-out and how the devices worked and answered questions. At the November 15th meeting, the Parent Advisory Committee will be hosting a panel of college and Employment First students who will share their experiences. The Unified Volley Ball team is off to a great start with their first win. Ms. McNeiece asked if they could get some pictures up on the website of the games and the students.

Technology: Roland Lambert reported that the 1:1 rollout went very well. Pier School Students received the laptops at the end of the summer, the Elementary School student devices were distributed at the start of school; and the rollout at the High School will be distributed by Advisory, by the end of September.

School Committee Reports:

Mr. Ranaldi announced that the next Health and Wellness Committee meeting will take place on Monday, September 26th at 4:00 PM, in the large board room (new location) on the first floor of the Town Hall.

Mr. deWardener reported on the success of the football game against Cranston East B team the night of the grand opening of the new Community Athletic field.

Ms. McNeiece explained the process and how the Committee used the input from several focus groups made up of parents, staff, administrators, central office personnel and community members to select the Superintendent. The Committee used that feedback and information to determine what the stake holders were looking for in a new Superintendent. Dr. Cummings was the candidate who stood out and who the Committee believes will be innovative, creative, passionate and enthusiastic. Ms. McNeiece introduced and welcomed new Superintendent Dr. Peter Cummings.

Superintendent’s Report: Superintendent Sipala reported to the Committee, and audience, on the District Goals and Priorities which is developed by the Administrators yearly. It is useful for Administrators and includes specifics and mini-action plans. It is helpful to teachers as they set their professional goals for their evaluations and they are tightly aligned to the District Goals. There are achievement goals regarding PARCC and NECAP testing. Mike Convery, Curriculum Director, will report on these results at the October School Committee Meeting. The District Priorities include: that a new Strategic Plan be developed; curriculum development in science and social studies; a new data system to be implemented in the 2017-18 school year; focus on PARCC assessment so that all staff, students and families better understand and support that local system; development and increase of knowledge of digital literacy and blended

learning (which is a huge focus for our District); and improving student attendance; and to continue to focus on mental health of students; and many other improvements indicated in the plan. Superintendent Sipala acknowledged Mike Millen, parent, coach, and the NPS Athletic Director, who will be recognized by the Independent Newspaper with the Spirit Award as an outstanding volunteer.

Superintendent Sipala introduced the 2016 Narragansett Teacher of the Year, Kristen Hayes-Leite, and explained that she will go forward to the State level as Narragansett’s nominee for RI Teacher of the Year.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Approval of Minutes:

- A. August 16, 2016 Executive Session - Limited Distribution
- B. August 17, 2016 Executive Session - Limited Distribution
- C. August 17, 2016 Regular Business Meeting
- D. August 18, 2016 Executive Session - Limited Distribution
- E. August 22, 2016 Executive Session - Limited Distribution
- F. August 30, 2016 Executive Session - Limited Distribution
- G. August 31, 2016 Executive Session - Limited Distribution

2. Routine Personnel Actions:

Increase– Certified

Izzi, Christina, .3 ELL, District, effective September 19, 2016.

Resignation – Classified

O’Rourke, Edna, Bus Monitor, Transportation, Effective August 8, 2016

Appointments– Classified

Gannek, Pamela, Teacher Assistant, NHS, Comp.: \$18.27/hr, 32.5 hrs/wk, 36 wks/yr, effective August 31, 2016.

Transfer– Classified

Hordern, David, Custodian, NPS, Compensation: \$22.01/hr, 40 hrs/wk, 52 wks/yr, effective August 29, 2016.

Laurie, Beth Ann, Custodian, NHS, Compensation: \$22.01/hr, 40 hrs/wk, 52 wks/yr, effective August 29, 2016.

Gray, Richard, Custodian, NES, Compensation: \$22.01/hr, 40 hrs/wk, 52 wks/yr, effective August 29, 2016.

Duffin, Jason, Custodian, NHS, Compensation: \$18.74/hr, 40 hrs/wk, 52 wks/yr, effective August 29, 2016.

Appointments – Other

Field, Ryan, Theater Director, NHS, Compensation: \$4,000, effective for the 2016-17 school year.

Field, Ryan, Theater Director, NPS, Compensation: \$4,000, effective for the 2016-17 school year.

Appointments - Teacher Leader Position - NES - School Year 2016-17

McCallig, Tracey	Teacher Leader Grade 2	Stipend: \$3000.00
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Appointments – Coaches NHS

Wyrostek, David	Girls Assistant Soccer Coach	Stipend: \$2397.22
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Appointments – Coaches NPS

Kulpa, Jeffrey	Girls Soccer Coach	Stipend: \$1905.67
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Sheppard, James	Assistant Boys Soccer Coach	Stipend: N/A
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3. Reports:

- A. Enrollment Report
- B. Budget Transfers
- C. Maintenance Report

MOTION: moved by, Mr. Ranaldi, seconded by Mr. White, to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the Consent Agenda items (CA-1A, CA-1B, CA-1C revised, CA-1D, CA-1E, CA-1F, CA-1G, CA-2, CA-3A, CA-3B, CA-3C).

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Diane Nobles-Aye	Guy deWardener-Aye
Frank White-Aye	Tammy McNeiece-Aye
Keith Ranaldi-Ave	

BUDGET REPORT Mr. White reported that as of September 21, 2016, \$2,271,375.74 (7.80%) of the FY17 Budget of \$29,103,490.00 has been expended, and \$24,483,589.05 (84.13%) has been expended and encumbered.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE BUSINESS

1. **TABLED.** Approval of Tuition Rates for the 2016-17 SY
2. Approval of the Purchase of a Telephone System Upgrade

MOTION: moved by Mr. White, seconded by Mr. deWardener to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Director of Finance and Administration, to approve the purchase of a Telephone System Upgrade from LCN Networks in the amount of \$44,219.75.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Diane Nobles-Aye Guy deWardener- Aye
Frank White-Aye Tammy McNeiece-Aye
Keith Ranaldi-Aye

3. **TABLED.** Approval of the Purchase of a Storage Shed
4. Approval of the Purchase of a Wheelchair Accessible School Bus

MOTION: moved by Mr. deWardener, seconded by Mr. White to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Director of Finance and Administration, to approve the purchase of a Wheelchair Accessible School Bus from DATTCO Sales & Service in the amount of \$58,600.00.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Diane Nobles-Aye Guy deWardener- Aye
Frank White-Aye Tammy McNeiece-Aye
Keith Ranaldi-Aye

5. Approval of the Purchase of Fencing

MOTION: moved by Dr. Nobles, seconded by Mr. deWardener to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Director of Finance and Administration, to approve the purchase of Fencing from Statewide Fence Builders in the amount of \$6,490.18.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Diane Nobles-Aye Guy deWardener- Aye
Frank White-Aye Tammy McNeiece-Aye
Keith Ranaldi-Aye

COMMUNICATIONS

FUTURE MEETINGS/BUSINESS

October 19, 2016 7:00 PM Regular Business Meeting, Narragansett Town Hall, Assembly Area

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: moved by Mr. deWardener, seconded by Mr. White to adjourn at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank White, Clerk